

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) In a discharge lamp lighting apparatus comprising a discharge lamp lighting circuit for lighting a discharge lamp, and a housing made of a synthetic resin for containing the discharge lamp lighting circuit therein,

the housing has a tubular shaped base member having a flat bottom plate and side walls set up along entire circumference of an upper face of the bottom plate, and a cover member for closing an opening of the base member; and

the base member has a protruding portion formed to protrude outward from a part of the side wall, a wire putting portion formed on the protruding portion and communicating between an inside and an outside of the housing from which an electric wire electrically connected to the discharge lamp lighting circuit is put out, and a plurality of reinforcing ribs formed for coupling between a lower face of the protruding portion and portions of an outer face of the side walls except the protruding portion and for protruding outward from the side walls.

2. (Original) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein a protruding dimension of the protruding portion of the base member from the side wall is equal to or larger than $1/2$ of a height of the side wall.

3. (Currently Amended) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 1 or 2, wherein a slanted face is provided in a vicinity of a lower end of the reinforcing rib so that a protruding dimension of the reinforcing rib from the side wall becomes smaller departing from the protruding portion.

4. (Original) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the wire putting portion is a groove formed for communicating the opening on an upper face of the base member, and ribs that a cross-sectional shape parallel to the opening of the base member is substantially hemisphere are respectively provided opposing to each other on inner walls of both sides of the groove.

5. (Original) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the wire putting portion is a groove formed for communicating the opening on an upper face of the base member, and protrusions that a cross-sectional shape in a direction parallel to a

longitudinal direction and perpendicular to a widthwise direction of the groove are provided on a bottom of the groove.

6. (Currently Amended) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 5 ~~4 or 6~~, wherein the cover member has a protruding portion formed to overlap with a face of the protruding portion of the base member on which the wire putting portion is formed.

7. (Original) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein a fixing portion by which the housing is fixed to a lighting system is formed to protrude outward from an outer peripheral face of the housing.

8. (Original) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 7, wherein the fixing portion is formed to protrude toward the base member from the cover member, and has a screw penetration hole formed on substantially a same face of the bottom plate of the base member in a state that the cover member is coupled with the base member.

9. (Original) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein a metal cover constituted by a plurality of cover pieces and covering the housing is further comprised, and each cover piece has an engaging portion which is to be engaged with at least one of another cover piece and the housing in a vicinity of the wire putting portion.

10. (Original) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 9, wherein each cover piece is formed so as not to overlap with another piece except a portion in a vicinity of the engaging portion.

11. (Original) In a lighting system comprising a discharge lamp, a discharge lamp lighting apparatus for lighting the discharge lamp, a main body containing the discharge lamp lighting apparatus, and a socket which is electrically connected to the discharge lamp lighting apparatus and to which the discharge lamp is attached,

the discharge lamp lighting apparatus comprises a discharge lamp lighting circuit for lighting a discharge lamp, and a housing made of a synthetic resin for containing the discharge lamp lighting circuit therein,

the housing has a tubular shaped base member having a flat bottom plate and side walls set up along entire circumference of an upper face of the bottom plate, and a cover member for closing an opening of the base member; and

the base member has a protruding portion formed to protrude outward from a part of the side wall, a wire putting portion formed on the protruding portion and communicating between an inside and an outside of the housing from which an electric wire electrically connected to the discharge lamp lighting circuit is put out, and a plurality of reinforcing ribs formed for coupling between a lower face of the protruding portion and portions of an outer face of the side walls except the protruding portion and for protruding outward from the side walls.

12. (New) The discharge lamp lighting apparatus in accordance with claim 2, wherein a slanted face is provided in a vicinity of a lower end of the reinforcing rib so that protruding dimension of the reinforcing rib from the side wall becomes smaller departing from the protruding portion.